

15 February 1973

PROPOSED PRESENTATION TO THE DCI  
ON ACTIVITIES OF THE NSCIC WORKING GROUP

The President's memorandum of 5 November 1971 on "Organization and Management of the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Community," and the consequently revised NSCID No. 1, "Basic Duties and Responsibilities," established a National Security Council Intelligence Committee (NSCIC) to "give direction and guidance on national substantive intelligence needs and provide for a continuing evaluation of intelligence products from the viewpoint of the intelligence consumer."

The NSCIC established a Working Group which met six times between 13 December 1971 and 3 October 1972 under chairmanship of the Deputy to the DCI for Intelligence Community affairs. The group includes a representative of each of the six NSCIC principals\* and heads of the five major intelligence production offices -- INR/State, DIA, and three from CIA (the DDI, DDS&T and D/ONE).

Discussions at Working Group meetings have primarily involved matters relating to:

- means of improving intelligence consumer/producer inter-communication in the interest of more adequate guidance to the intelligence community; and

- evaluation of the responsiveness of intelligence products to identified consumer needs.

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\* The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, The Attorney General, The Director of Central Intelligence, The Under Secretary of State, The Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Working Group studies have been undertaken either by ad hoc task groups, usually including representation from both consumer and intelligence production offices, or by the Product Review Group of the DCI's Intelligence Community Staff.

Reports thus far completed are of four kinds.

First, studies of intelligence support to policy makers in international crisis situations.

a. "A Case Study of the India-Pakistan Crisis of 1971" was completed by a task group which sought to identify "lessons learned" for application to future military-political crises. The NSCIC Working Group considered this study at its 6 July and 3 October meetings and on 5 October the study and a covering memorandum was sent to each NSCIC member. The memorandum suggested issues on which NSCIC policy guidance to the intelligence community would be appropriate. The NSCIC has not met since the study was disseminated.

b. "Jordan -- 1970: A Case Study," which describes the Jordanian-Palestinian fedayeen conflict and the intelligence response, was completed by a special task group and disseminated to NSCIC Working Group members in late February 1973. It is to be discussed at the next Working Group meeting.

The second type study was intended to provide indication of ways in which intelligence responsiveness to National Security Staff Memoranda (NSSM) could be improved. The topic selected was a Review of the Intelligence Inputs to NSSM-69: Strategy and Forces for Asia. The initial study was completely reworked on the basis of NSCIC Working Group consideration

last June, and the revision was sent to Working Group members for comment on 12 January 1973. Consideration of the study will be an agenda topic at the next Working Group meeting.

The third type of study effort was selected because it was considered desirable to make an assessment of the adequacy of available intelligence for U.S. needs in particular subject matter areas. The first study of this type, the Report of the Committee to Review the Intelligence Products Related to the Cruise Missile Threat was completed 1 February 1973, and has been disseminated to NSCIC Working Group members. It will be discussed at the next Working Group meeting.

The fourth type are descriptive studies intended to provide background information for members of the Working Group. Three such studies thusfar completed are:

U.S. Intelligence Activities Relating to International Economic Developments (7 March 1972)

U.S. Intelligence Activities Relating to International Narcotics Traffic (21 March 1972)

Resources Devoted to Production by the U.S. Intelligence Community (28 March 1972)

Five additional studies are now underway under Working Group auspices:

a. One of these is another case study of intelligence support in political-military crises: The Arab/Israeli Ceasefire, August 1970.

b. Another is a topic selected because it was of particular current interest in view of the unsettled future of Yugoslavia: A Study of Intelligence Production on Yugoslavia.

c. The other three are surveys expected to identify problem areas for NSCIC Working Group attention:

U.S. Intelligence Activities Relating to International  
Economic Developments

(This is being handled by the Economic Intelligence Committee of USIB, and will expand on the March 1972 study of similar title, which dealt only with CIA production.)

Manpower and Cost Trends in U.S. Intelligence Production,  
Fiscal Years 1966-1973, and

Current Intelligence Production in the U.S. Intelligence  
Community

Overall, during its first year of operation the Working Group has been feeling its way. Its undertakings have been intended to pinpoint areas in which improved interaction between the intelligence consumers and producers could result in a product more responsive to user needs.

The program has proved time-consuming and difficulties have arisen in obtaining manpower of the type desired, but progress is being made.

Completion of on-going studies and additional projects involving improvement in consumer feedback and raising the quality of substantive analysis are expected to be the major focus of Working Group attention in the near-term future.

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